Vol. 68 — No. 38 — COMPANY H

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2008

WWW.MCRDSD.USMC.MIL

PRSRT STD U.S. POSTAGE PAID SAN DIEGO CA PERMIT #1864

CG's Thanksgiving Message

I want to begin this holiday message by saying thank you to all the Marines, sailors, civilian Marines, Coast Guardsmen and all our families of Marine Corps Recruit Depot and the Western Recruiting Region.

Thanksgiving has been described as the one "truly American holiday." It is a time for all Americans to contemplate what they have and acknowledge those who provide it. All Marines, sailors, civilian Marines and Coast Guardsmen aboard the depot can be assured that you are in the thoughts of millions of American citizens on this day. They give thanks for the sacrifices you make to ensure their freedoms and keep them safe. They try to understand the hardships you endure in combat, the friends you have lost, and the families that you don't see enough. You are the bedrock of a nation that is dedicated to making the world a better place.

I am thankful for the dedication of every service member aboard the depot. The hard work of our drill instructors and recruiters ensures the future of the Marines Corps, and for that we can all give thanks. We should all remember those overseas and in combat today, those who will not be able to spend the day with their families. Give thanks for their service and sacrifice and keep them in your thoughts.

Enjoy this holiday break and celebrate it wisely. Remember to keep yourself safe and look out for others. Our core values of honor, courage, and commitment follow us wherever we go. Happy Thanksgiving and Semper Fidelis!

a. Julinae

A. Salinas Brigadier General U.S. Marine Corps Commanding General

Civilian police augment PMO

BY CPL. KEVIN M. KNALLAY Chevron staff

Visitors of Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego are seeing some new faces in new uniforms guarding at the gates. The new civilian military police officers are now part of the depot Provost Marshal's Office.

A new Marine Corps-wide program, Marine Corps Civilian Police, is designed to reduce the operational stress on Marine Corps military police, and enhance security and police services across the Marine Corps, according to the programs website, www.usmccle.com.

Currently the depot has seven civilian police officers. The goal is to reach 27 total by fiscal year 2011. The depot currently hires about nine per fiscal year.

Civilian officers train for 356 hours during nine weeks on

SEE **Police, pg. 8**



A static display of a car accident sits for all to see just inside gate two of the depot. The display offers a visual deterrent to not drink and drive and to always wear a seatbelt.

Depot focuses on traditional Thanksgiving safety issues

BY GUNNERY SGT. LAURA GAWECKI

MCRD San Diego Public Affairs

There are traditional safety issues associated with the long Thanksgiving holiday. Driving under the influence of alcohol, underage drinking and vehicle accidents on and off the depot remain significant safety issues.

Although DUI arrests have decreased on the depot from 12 in 2007 to one this year, drunk driving remains a significant issue for Marines who leave base for the holidays, said 1st Lt. Gunnar A. Spafford, operations officer, Provost Marshal's Office.

Veterans Day kicks off the long holiday season through Thanksgiving and Marines want to have a good time, Spafford said. Drinking alcohol is almost always involved with safety violations.

The reduction in DUIs on base is due to the diligence of the depot's DUI checkpoints and the threat of losing one's career if arrested, said Spafford.

"I think a lot of the reduction has to do with awareness," he said. "If you come through the gate drunk, you're (career is) done. The base has three checkpoints at the gates which are 100 percent staffed. Our gates are our control points."

The penalty for drinking and

driving on base is reporting the incident to the violator's command; losing driving privileges on base for a year; and having to attend traffic court. Reinstatement of their base driving privileges is left to the discretion of the base traffic magistrate.

Depot vehicle accidents have increased, said Spafford.

"We have one-to-two traffic accidents per week on base," said Spafford.

The accidents are often fender-benders and are not major due to the slow speed limit. And with holiday shopping comes increased traffic and accidents, he said.

The long holiday break also entices Marines to travel off base to further destinations, such as Tijuana.

More than 600 people have been killed in Tijuana this year, where high crime rates related to drug violence have been recorded in the last two months.

There have been no incidents of depot Marines reported, said Spafford.

"If going to Tijuana, be vigilant with your surroundings," said Headquarters Company First Sergeant Donald R. Bal, Jr. "If you're staying there for a significant length of time, you should at least check in with the American embassy; and ensure you have emergency

contact numbers, including the Navy Shore Patrol based at the Mexico/U.S. Border."

According to battalion order 1050.1, all personnel on liberty in the Mexican border areas must use the "buddy system." In addition, all lance corporals and below must have a signed authorization form from NAVPERS 1336_3. Additionally, company commanders will retain copies of Mexico liberty forms for 15 days.

Personnel who reside in the Mexican border area must also inform their commanding officer and provide proof of a residence in the area. In these cases, the commanding officer is authorized to grant exception to the restrictions.

After normal working hours, the base officer of the day can authorize a pass, but only after ensuring the company first sergeant and section representative are aware of the liberty request. The BOOD will retain a copy of all signed forms and keep a log when authorizing after-hours liberty for lance corporals and below.

During the holidays, the most important safety tip is to know your area, be aware and have a plan beforehand.

"Those who go minute-byminute get into trouble," he said.



COPELAND'S FIRETEAM ASSAULT

Company H recruits conquer Night Infiltration Course **Recruit Spotlight**

28-year-old to complete life adventure as Marine



Blood Drive

Depot civilian lab technician Kenneth Leviste prepares to draw blood from Cpl David Avalos, Support Battalion, inside the **Naval Medical Center San Diego** bloodmobile during the Armed Services Blood Program's Blood Drive Nov. 18 at the depot. Avalos was one of many Marines who gave blood benefiting the military both at home and in the theater of operation. The Blood Donor Center at NMCSD is in constant need of blood donors to support its mission of supplying blood to servicemembers overseas and the patients at the hospital. This is especially difficult with the current fleet operational tempo and constant Marine rotation to Iraq. Cpl. Shawn Dickson/Chevron





Depot facilities maintenance staff roll a World War II era jeep, which is one of the Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego Command Museum's original displays, onto a forklift Nov. 17, to move it to another room in preparation of a future World War II exhibit. "Nobody knew how it got there in the first place since none of our current employees were on the staff at that time," said Barbara McCurtis, museum director. Chuck Archuleta, a museum exhibit specialist, suggested they remove an outside safety rail and roll the jeep outside the room through the double doors and onto a forklift for the move. The jeep was used during World War II by the 6th Division Navajo Code Talkers. The museum plans to open the new World War II exhibit early next year. Photo courtesy Barbara

Showing our thanks at Thanksgiving

BY LT. CMDR. RONALD R. RINGO Command Chaplain

In the tradition of our early Pilgrims, we will soon celebrate Thanksgiving which is a perfect time to reflect on the things for which we each are grateful. Probably, like many of you, the past year has been one filled with many of the stressors we can experience in this life. Yet, there is also a lot of evidence of the many blessings that we so freely enjoy. In everything we ought to be thankful.

When we take a look around and see those who seem to exhibit peace within them, and seem to enjoy more of life, even with the normal daily struggles, we find that they tend to be those who acknowledge their blessings and show gratitude.

Most of us enjoy being around these people. Sometimes we don't even recognize why, but it is most likely due to their grateful outlook on life. They take in and appreciate the little things. They take time to enjoy a run on the beach at dawn and watch the beautiful sunrise, or recognize the joy of children playing and the beauty of nature, and then desire to share it with those around them. I have been trying to do this more in my life; to take in and appreciate all that is around me so freely given.

With the holiday season beginning, I wanted to share a message of thanks and giving. In the Bible, the Apostle Paul says, "In every thing give thanks, for this is the will of God." Giving thanks is an expression of a heart full of gratitude, a heart

full of love. In good relationships we can express gratitude by being thoughtful and considerate, by demonstrating our thanks with love to those around us.

At the end of the Operation Iraqi Freedom I, I was able to travel from ship to ship and ride home on ships filled with Marines and sailors returning from Iraq. I heard great expressions of love and appreciation for the simple and little things of home. I hope we can remember and continue to appreciate the things we learned from the experience of being away from our blessings of home due to war and deployments.

We who serve in the military, who deploy now and then, or regularly, might want to receive this awakening by arranging some time for our spouse to get away for a couple of days, and take over their responsibilities. I have had many women come for counseling say, "I wish my husband really appreciated the things I do around the home."

A story by Ruth C. Ikerman shares this message. It is entitled, "Thankful Tongues."

On Thanksgiving morning I stepped to the fence and said to my neighbor, "I'm so glad you live next door to me." She looked up with a surprised smile on her face and said, "Thank you so very much. Nobody ever said that to me before." Surely all her neighbors had often thought this about my next-door neighbor, for her kindnesses on routine days of the year were varied.

She would pick up the newspaper and put it on the porch when someone was going to be

late coming home, so that the paper wouldn't be carried off by stray dogs. She could be counted on to turn off the water if a mischievous child began to play with the garden hose in the owner's absence. Yes, she was a fine neighbor, and many had reasons to be glad for the blessing of her personality. Yet when I took time to tell her in simple words that I was thankful she lived next door, she seemed so surprised and happy – as if I had handed her an unexpected amount of money.

This year as Thanksgiving approaches, I am wondering if there are others who need to hear a statement of the obvious. Should I speak a word to my doctor, lawyer, and merchant?

The emotion of gratitude that we regrettably keep hidden during much of the rest of the year has opportunity to come plainly into view when Thanksgiving Day approaches. In the true spirit of the season, we come to know the happiness spoken of in the Bible: "A man hath joy by the answer of his mouth: and a word spoken in due season, how good is it!" (Proverbs 15:23.) Thankful tongues can encourage a neighbor or a loved one and show gratitude to God for his blessings.

It is my hope and prayer that with the great experience we just went through in the freedoms to vote and serve a free people, and all the other blessings we enjoy daily, in this free land our Pilgrams established, that we truly reflect on how grateful we should really be. Take the time to sit quietly and ponder how you can express that gratitude to those around you more regularly. Have a wonderful Holiday.

BRIEFS

Holiday Concert

The commanding general, Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego and Western Recruiting Region, will host the annual Tree Lighting and Holiday Concert featuring Marine Band San Diego Dec. 14 at 6 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.

Pre-pigout workout

Depot personnel are invited to burn up to 1,000 calories for a guilt free Thanksgiving holiday tomorrow from 8 to 11 a.m., at the Fitness Center. The workout starts with a spin class from 8 to 9:30 a.m., then combat conditioning class from 9:30 to 11 a.m. Food, drinks and prizes will be featured. For information, call (619)524-4427.

Santa at the Main Exchange Mall

Santa Claus will be at MCRD San Diego at the Main Exchange Mall from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday. He will return to the mall Saturday and Sunday, and on Dec. 6, 13, 16 and 20 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Bring out the youngsters for pictures and a visit. Live entertainment, music and refreshments will be provided. For information, call (619) 725-6400.

Annual car show and Toys for Tots Benefit

The depot will host the MCRD Car Show and Toys for Tots Benefit Dec. 6 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., in the Recreation Center parking lot. Free and open to the public, the event will feature music, food and awards. For information, call (619) 524-5240.

Financial Brown Bag Lunch Seminar

The next Personal Financial Brown Bag Lunch Seminar, "Tax Planning: How to Reduce Your Taxes & Increase Your Refunds," will be held Dec. 10 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Marine & Family Services' classroom, Bldg. 14. A free light lunch buffet will be served but attendees may bring their own lunch. To register, call (619) 524-5728.

Flu vaccine

The flu vaccine is mandatory for military personnel. The depot Branch Medical Clinic is offering flu shots and mist to all TRICARE beneficiaries who work aboard the base. The vaccine is available Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Staff Health. Call (619) 524-1565 for information. For eligible beneficiaries not working aboard the depot, call (619) 532-5358 for information on availability at other branch clinics.

Navigating the Special Ed process

Navigating the Special Education Process informational seminar will be offered to active duty, reservists, retirees, DoD employees, their dependents and guests from 4 to 5:30 p.m. on Dec. 11 at the Family Readiness Classroom, Bldg. 6E. For information, call (619) 524-8032.

SEND BRIEFS TO:

MCRDSD-PAO.fct@usmc.mil. The Chevron staff reserves the right to publish only those briefs that comply with Department of Defense regulations and the standards of the U.S. Government.

Marine recruiters and Marines-to-be assist Hurricane Ike victims

BY SGT. BRIAN KESTER RS Fort Worth

The third most destructive hurricane to make landfall in the United States, Hurricane Ike, left havoc in its wake. The path of destruction left by the category 2 hurricane left 96 people dead, 202 missing and caused more than \$27 billion in damages in the United States alone.

While Ike was doing it damage, many people felt compelled to assist those who sought refuge in the Dallas and Fort Worth, Texas, areas including Marines.

As the hurricane began to impact the local area, Master Sgt. Tyronne Mitchell, staff noncommissioned officer-in-charge, Recruiting Substation Arlington, Recruiting Station Fort Worth, was making plans to cancel a monthly Delayed Entry Program function as the weather was looking too dismal to safely continue. The DEP is an actual enlistment into the inactive reserves, with an agreement to report for active duty at a specific time in the future.

One of the poolees (DEP members) mentioned helping out with Hurricane Ike relief and suddenly a light bulb clicked on," said Mitchell.

Emily Getzschman, director of Communications and Government Relations for the American Red Cross, Chisholm Trail Chapter, helped RSS Arlington team make their idea a reality.

"After Hurricane Ike made landfall, there was grave concern about the path it would take as it headed north,' Getzschman said. "There was a

threat of it hitting the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex and causing severe flooding."

The Marines and poolees worked in the driving rain.

The bulk of what we did was to load meals onto trucks for delivery to those in need" Mitchell said. Mitchell sent a poolee and two Marines to distribute supplies at the remote places where the people were stranded.

"As Marines, we don't just take care of things overseas. We take care of things at home too, and to me that was the most important thing," said Mitchell.

Getzschman said she thought their actions exemplified what it means to serve ones country.

"It was great having the support of the Marines during hurricane relief efforts," she said. "By showing their commitment to the community, I think it inspires others to do the same."

Mitchell agreed by saying events like this foster a sense of ownership in the community for the poolees and the Marines.

"It reenergized the poolees to be a part of something that helped so many people," said Mitchell, who said he is planning similar charitable events in the near future.

"We actually got some referrals from people in the community," he said, adding that people were impressed seeing that the poolees were out there contributing when did not have to.

"More often than not, we take from our community and this is a good chance for us to give something back," Mitchell said.



Master Sgt. Tyronne Mitchell, left, staff noncommissioned officer-incharge, Recruiting Fort Worth, Texas, explaines to poolees their mission to assist relief efforts following Hurricane Ike in September, at the American Red Cross wearhouse in Arlington, Texas. Poolees, left to right; are Oscar Parra, Shawn Ruby, Zachary Glazeand Paul Magallanes. Sat. Brian Kester/RS Fort Worth



Marines and Delayed Entry Program members from Recruiting Substation Arlington, Recruiting Station Fort Worth, Texas, seek shelter from the rain in the American Red Cross warehouse in Arlington, Texas, while preparing to contribute to Hurrican Ike relief efforts by distributing meals to victims of the storm. Sat. Brian Kester/RS Fort Worth



COMMANDING GENERAL

Brig. Gen. Angie Salinas

SERGEANT MAJOR

SGT. MAJ. BRIAN K. JACKSON

PUBLIC AFFAIRS DIRECTOR

Maj. Christopher B. Logan

DEPUTY DIRECTOR JANICE M. HAGAR

PUBLIC AFFAIRS CHIEF

Gunnery Sgt. Laura Gawecki

PRESS CHIEF

STAFF SGT. CHRISTINE POLVOROSA

COMBAT CORRESPONDENTS

CPL. ROBERT W. BEAVER CPL. KEVIN M. KNALLAY CPL. SHAWN DICKENS LANCE CPL. JOSE NAVA Lance Cpl. Paul Matthew Brown LANCE CPL. REBECCA LAMONT

EDITOR

ROGER EDWARDS Mail comments to. MCRDSD-PAO.fct@usmc.mil **CHEVRON/PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE**

1600 HENDERSON AVE. #120 SAN DIEGO, CA 92140 (619) 524-8727

The Chevron, printed with appropriated funds in compliance with Marine Corps Order P5600.31F, is published by Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego personnel. Opinions and views expressed herein are not necessarily those of the Marine Corps or the Department of Defense. The Chevron is promulgated for informational purposes only and in no way should be considered directive in nature. All photos are official USMC property unless otherwise indicated.



Recruits from Company H, Platoon 2166, lift a concertina wire obstacle so fellow recruits can crawl underneath during the Night Infiltration Course Nov. 18. The recruits use teamwork to navigate the obstacles on the course while drill instructors shout commands. Cpl. Shawn Dickens/Chevron



Recruit Leonard McN simulating having to



Recruit David Smith, Platoon 2166, runs to provide cover for his fellow recruits after crawling under a wire obstacle on the Night Infiltration Course. During the course, recruits provide assistance to each other to ensure all members of the fireteam complete the course safely. Cpl. Shawn Dickens/Chevron



Recruit James Zagar, Platoon 2166, uses his M-16A2 service rifle to lift a concertina v platoon can crawl under safely. Cpl. Shawn Dickens/Chevron

Company H conque

BY CPL SHAWN DICKENS
Chevron staff

The recruits of Company H ran Copeland's Fireteam Assault Course, also known as the Night Infiltration Course, at Weapons and Field Training Battalion, Camp Pendleton, Calif., Nov. 18 as part of the Crucible.

The Crucible is a 54-hour training event that marks the end of the 13 weeks of recruit training. During the crucible the recruits are sleep and food deprived while being required to participate in an array of training scenarios testing everything the recruits have learned during recruit training.

The recruits run the infiltration course in groups of four called a fireteam. The fireteam is the base of which infantry organization is built.

"The night assault course helps recruits learn how to work as a team to complete a specific goal," said Sgt. Edward Wisniewski, Field Instructor, Weapons and Field Training Battalion. "In this case, it is being able to both quickly and safely navigate the obstacles, while maintaining positive control of their weapons and transporting the ammo cans."

During the course, the recruits shout that they are either "set," – letting fellow team members know they are ready to provide cover for fellow recruits, or "moving," – informing fellow recruits that they are pushing forward toward the next objective.

According to the field instructors from WFTBn, the Night Infiltration Course is one of two courses located at Edson Range used to teach recruits the techniques used to assault through an enemy objective using the individual fire and movement skills they have learned while applying them in a fireteam.

The movemore position Recr

simulat turns propen ar under b wall; an

ammun unit at t Typi

of air po weapon realistic condition the char

Since drill ins comma versed t

The sing envi

"We the Mar head ou recruits them to



eal, Platoon 2167, crawls through a tunnel during the Night Infiltration Course Nov. 18. While negotiating the course, recruits are required to carry 25-pound ammunition cans resupply friendly forces at the end of the course. Cpl. Shawn Dickens/Chevron



vire obstacle so other members of his



After negotiating the wire, recruits wait for the other members of their fireteam to join them so they could continue through the course. Ensuring the members of their fireteam stay together is one of the responsibilities of all recruits during the movement through the course. Cpl. Shawn Dickens/Chevron

ers Copeland's Fireteam Infiltration Course

recruits provide cover for each other as they use individual ent techniques to negotiate the course moving from a covered a, through an obstacle, to the next covered position. uits run through the course in four-man fireteams. They e exiting an amphibious assault vehicle then alternate taking roviding cover for each other. They move forward across an ea toward the course's obstacles, which include crawling arbed and concertina wire; jumping over trenches; scaling a d crawling through a tunnel.

recruits must complete all of this while carrying 25 pound ition cans filled with sand to simulate having to resupply a he end of the course.

cally all of this takes place as field instructors control a pair owered rifles located next to the course to simulate automatic is fire and boomer pits simulate artillery explosions, adding a feel to the training evolution. However, due to extremely dry ons the simulated weapons were not used in order to prevent nee of starting a fire.

e the sounds of battle were absent due to the danger of fire, structors intensified the output of "motivation", screaming nds to the groups of recruits to ensure that they safely trahe obstacles.

shouts of the instructors helped create a stressful and confusironment for the recruits that would otherwise be provided imulated weapons systems.

want to simulate, as close as we can, the stress of combat that rines will face once they have completed recruit training and t to the operating forces," said Wisniewski. "Not all of the will end up in a combat environment, but if they do we want be able to succeed under pressure."



A fireteam of recruits prepare to climb out of a trench obstacle during the Night Infiltration Course as part of the Crucible, a 54-hour training event that tests everything the recruits have learned during 13 weeks of recruit training. Cpl. Shawn Dickens/Chevron

Odyssey ends, Marine Corps adventure begins

BY LANCE CPL. PAUL MATTHEW BROWN Chevron Staff

ew people would turn down the chance of being drafted by the Houston Astros straight out of high school; only to go on a religious mission, and later return to college baseball. Even fewer would then immediately leave three and a half years of college to go work in Africa. And after all that adventure, become a

At 28 years of age, Pfc. Robert S. Burns of Platoon 2161, Company H, has been living life one adventure at a time since he was a child.

When Burns was growing up, he had picked up essential traits from his entrepreneur father, Joe L. Burns, who always had a hard work ethic Burns said. He also said his mother, Pam J. Burns, took great care and interest in her family his entire life.

"If it weren't for my parents, besides the fact that I wouldn't be alive, I don't think I would have gained the professional work ethic that has helped me do well in my life," said Burns. "It was my experiences with my parents that made me who I was and opened up opportunities to new experiences that have made me who I am."

As a top athlete at Bingham High School in South Jordan, Utah, Burns played football, wrestled, golfed and particularly excelled at baseball.

"I was blessed to be drafted by the Houston Astros out of high school," Burns said. "I decided I wanted to go to college at Dixie State College in St. George, Utah instead."

Burns soon went to Dixie State

College where he played for the Rebels on the baseball team. Although Burns thought school was more important than going straight to the major leagues baseball, he left college after only one year and decided it was time to go on a religious mission.

This mission brought him to England where he lived and performed Morman missionary work for two years.

However, being gone for two years didn't mark the end of Burns' schooling or baseball career. He soon returned to Dixie State College and continued playing baseball for them for another

"I was a pretty big prospect coming out of Dixie State, and it had been projected that I would get drafted (into the major leagues) within the top five rounds for a couple hundred thousand dollars," Burns said. "Fortunately, it didn't work out like that, and I was able to sign with the University of Alabama."

After playing baseball for the University of Alabama for a year, Burns' baseball career was coming to an end.

"After my time at the University of Alabama, I was considered to old to be drafted anymore," said Burns. "I kind of retired from the game of baseball and finished at the University of Utah, where I redshirted for their team."

Redshirting is participating academically at the school and practicing with the baseball team, but not playing in games due to their redshirt status, allowing one more season of eligibility for the player.

Although Burns' time playing baseball for a team was done, his involvement with the sport continued in the form of giving lessons to others



Pfc. Robert S. Burns, Company H, Platoon 2161, stands in front of his barracks at Edson Range after being awarded the title Marine. Despite the fact that the recruits of Company H had completed the Crucible that morning and became Marines, they rested for only a short time so that they could prepare for movement back to Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego and Wednesday's graduation. Lance Cpl. Paul Matthew Brown/Chevron

During his time giving baseball lessons, Burns met someone that inspired him to go on an adventure to

"While I was over there for those months, we worked with villagers, providing them with work and building schools," Burns said. "It was a lesson in poverty, disease, power and corruption."

Burns saw things he had never seen before and yearned to learn more about the world.

There was an itch to get out and see things like that and gain a better perspective said Burns. This experience, as well as the fact that the military had always been an option for Burns, prompted him to begin looking at his next adventure.

"I had always wanted to be a Navy SEAL when I was young, but never took it that seriously," said Burns. "I have a few friends who were Marines and they had told me about the brotherhood mind set of the Corps and the pride that comes with the title and it got me

thinking harder about that option"

When 28-year-old Burns found out the cut-off age to become a Marine was also 28, it didn't take long before he made his decision and arrived at recruit training.

"The mind set I have gained from coming this far in my life and recruit training has been nothing short of a great experience," said Burns. "I just feel blessed that I was able to be the guide for my platoon, 2161, which is also the honor platoon!"

After Burns' graduates from recruit training, he says he will set off on his next adventure at the School of Infantry in the Infantry Training Battalion. He also said he later hopes to become a reconnaissance Marine, hopefully go into Force Recon, and then begin what he called his last adventure.

"I hope to be blessed with a family; I think that's going be my last adventure," Burns said. "In my experiences I have learned that the future is hard to tell, so I will just have to keep on going and see who I become from these experiences and what I choose to do next."



Pfc. Burns, the Guide of Platoon 2161 which was also the company honor platoon, keeps his competitive edge by doing some proper pull ups. "It isn't that hard to be polite and put out a little extra; it takes me a long way," Burns said. Lance Cpl. Paul Matthew Brown/Chevron

Retired Brig. Gen. John J. Krasovich

PARADE REVIEWING OFFICER

Born in May 1928, in Pueblo, Col., Retired Brig. Gen. John J. Krasovich graduated from Adams State College, Alamosa, Col., in 1951, with bachelor's degree in education. Upon graduation from college, he joined the Marine Corps and went through recruit training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, S.C. He successfully completed the Officer Candidate Course and was commissioned a second lieutenant in September 1951.

Following graduation from The Basic School, he reported

for duty at Camp Pendleton, Calif. In August 1952, he joined the 1st Marine Division in Korea, where he served as a platoon leader until he was released from active duty in March 1953. He then enrolled in Springfield College, Springfield, Mass., and obtained a master's degree in education.

Since his release from active duty, he has served as platoon leader, executive officer and commanding officer with selected Marine Corps Reserve units in Springfield, Mass.; Topeka, Kan.; and San Diego. From September 1969 to February 1972, he was the operations officer of the 16th Staff Group (Ground) Marine Corps Reserve Training Center, Naval Air Station Miramar, Calif.

In February 1972, he was, appointed commanding officer, 4th Tank Battalion, Force Troops, Fleet Marine Force, Naval Air Station Miramar, serving in this capacity until December 1973. He was then assigned as the executive officer, and later, commanding officer of Volunteer Training Unit 12-14, in San Diego from January 1974 until January 1976.

From January 1976 until October 1978, he was the group commander, 16th Staff Group (Ground), MCRTC, NAS Miramar. He was then assigned as commanding officer of Mobilization Training Unit, CA-6, in San Diego. While in this assignment, he was selected in February 1980 for promotion to brigadier general. He was promoted to that grade on July 1, 1980, and assigned as the assistant division commander, 4th Marine Division, New Orleans. In February 1981, he assumed additional duties as commanding general, 2nd Marine Amphibious Brigade.

On May 16, 1983, Brig. Gen. Krasovich's designated mobilization assignment was commanding general, Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center/Commanding General, 7th Marine Amphibious Brigade, Twentynine, Palms, Calif., and commanding general Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif. He served in this capacity until his retirement on Aug. 1, 1984.

He has attended many top-

level military schools including the Defense-Strategy Seminar, National Defense University, Washington, D.C., and the Army War Colleges, Carlisle, Pa.

Brig. Gen. Krasovich is a past president of the H.M. Smith Chapter of the Marine Corps Reserve Officers Association, and past president of the Pacific Southwest Amateur Athletic Association.

In his civilian career, Brig. Gen. Krasovich was employed by the city of San Diego Park and Recreation Department. During his 36 years with the department, he was involved in numerous park projects, including Balboa and Mission Bay parks and the famous Torrey Pines Golf



Platoon 2162 COMPANY HONOR MAN ance Cpl. D. S. McCrainey Recruited by Staff Sgt. R. C. Villa-Lobos



SERIES HONOR MAN Pfc. D. R. Cheeley Recruited by Sat. R. Washington



PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. R. S. Burns Idaho Falls, Idaho Recruited by Sgt. O. C. Barroso



on 2163 PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. C. R. Ashford Tualatin, Calif. Recruited by Sgt. D. E. Brewer



PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. E. M. Guerrero-Bognoli Granada Hills, Calif. Recruited by Staff Sqt. B. G. Pimentel



PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. S. R. Moore Stanton, Texas Recruited by Sat. R. Z. Perez



Platoon 2168 PLATOON HONOR MAN HIGH SHOOTER (330) Pfc. C. Villagomez Jr. Pfc. J. C. Kruse Visalia, Calif Swan Valley, Idaho Recruited by Recruited by Sqt. M. Anguiano Jr Sgt. E. Padilla



HIGH PFT (300) Pfc. M. Madayag III Hilmar, Calif. Recruited by

Staff Sgt. J. Zazueta

HOTEL COMPANY

2ND RECRUIT TRAINING Commanding Officer Lt. Col. G. G. Malkasian Lt. W. N. Tomasek Sergeant Major Sgt. Maj. M. J. O'Loughlin Battalion Drill Maste Gunnery Sgt. C. W. Kenly

COMPANY H Commanding Officer Capt. R. A. Schenker Company First Sergeant 1st Sgt. M. J. Brewei

SERIES 2161 1st Lt. T. A. Holmes Staff Sgt. J. W. McManus

PLATOON 2161 Senior Drill Instructors Staff Sgt. R. A. Cain Drill Instructors Staff Sqt. J. C. Hernandez Staff Sgt. J. A. Salgado Sat. K. Consiglio

Sqt. L. R. Lambaren Pvt. J. R. Abraham Pfc. J. G. Aguayo Pvt. M. C. Ake Pvt H I Arismendez Pvt. B. R. Babcock Pvt. C. R. Beebe Pvt. S. A. Billings Pvt. W. R. Blade Pvt. J. J. Boslev Pvt. C. W. Bradford Pvt. D. J. Brown Pfc. M. R. Bruns Pvt. C. S. Buhler Pvt. J. O. Burchhardt Pvt. D. E. Burnett Pfc. R. S. Burns Pfc. Z. G. Carrell Pvt. K. I. Castro Pvt. C. M. Cervantes Pvt. B. L. Christensen Pvt. K. G. Coffey Pvt. J. A. Colmenero Jr. Pvt. C. M. Connolly Pvt. W. R. Contrata Pfc. A. Contreras Pvt. A. L. Coronado Pvt. P. S. David Pvt. C. C. Davis Pvt. K. T. Decker Pfc. W. F. Delaney Pvt. R. A. Domel *Pfc. J. D. Drake *Pfc. J. J. Eisenzimmer Pfc. S. Escutia Jr. Pvt. E. A. Espinoza Pfc. C. A. Estrada Pvt. J. R. Estrella-Sanchez *Pfc. J. O. Featherston III Pvt. A. L. Fernandez-Garcia *Pfc. J. M. Fong Pvt. D. R. Forrey Pvt. M. Fossum Pvt. J. T. Fraley Pvt. H. A. Freer IV Pvt. J. K. Frizzell Pvt. C. R. Gamblin Pvt. K. D. Giesking Pfc. M. J. Gonder Pvt. Y. D. Gontaryk Pvt. D. M. Gosh Pvt. E. L. Gray Pvt. J. D. Guzman Jr. Pfc. A. L. Hartman Pvt. D. M. Hartong Pvt. T. W. Hawk *Pfc. B. D. Hendricks Pvt. S. A. Henrick Jr. Pfc. J. Herring

*Pfc. J. A. Hill Pvt. M. G. Howe Pfc. K. Humphries Pvt. I. G. Jackson Pvt. R. J. Janke Pvt. J. R. Jones Pfc. N. A. Kesterson Pvt. N. D. Key Pfc. A. J. Krikk Pfc. J. C. Kruse

Pvt. J. I. Lamb Pvt. D. H. Lansing Pvt. B. D. Lilly Pvt. F. Lule-Villanueva Jr. Pfc. J. P. Madrigal-Hernandez Pvt. W. E. Obrian

Pvt. Z. K. Ratliff Pvt. N. J. Reoyo Pvt. S. X. Sanchez Pvt. C. K. Sybesma Pvt. C. J. Weiman Pfc. J. H. Wild

PLATOON 2162 Senior Drill Instructors Staff Sgt. N. M. Romer Drill Instructors Staff Sgt. J. R. Martinez Staff Sgt. T. A. Sanderson

Pfc. T. M. Abendroth Pvt. E. G. Akins Pvt. R. S. Allan Pvt. R. A. Alvarado Pvt. A. L. Arnesor Pvt. D. A. Ashton Pvt. J. L. Barnes Pvt. Z. J. Berg Pvt. J. D. Broom Pvt. G. R. Brown Pvt. J. I. Brumley Pvt. J. Z. Bunke Pvt. D. A. Burnette Pvt. T. E. Cafferty Pvt. B. J. Clark

Pvt A Cantu Jr Pvt. R. R. Castro-Garza Pvt. D. J. Chang Pfc. A. A. Clark Pvt. R. A. Cockrell Pvt. A. R. Cooke Pfc. M. S. Coons Pvt. D. L. Cox Pfc. D. R. Crump Pvt. K. D. Darst Pvt. D. Diaz Jr. Pvt. K. L. Ehman Pvt. R. K. France *Pfc. L. E. Galindo Jr. Pvt. J. A. Galvan Pvt. S. F. Galvan Pvt. U. Gamez Pvt A I Gibson Pvt. J. Grandits Pvt. T. W. Hamlett Pvt. J. J. Harber Pvt. B. W. Harvey II

Pfc. B. T. Hawbaker Pvt. J. M. Havnes Pfc. C. D. Hays-Loft Pfc. T. O. Helms Pvt. Z. T. Hinna Pvt. J. B. Hunter Pvt. K. H. Icenhour Pfc. S. R. Jackson Pfc. R. K. Jennings Pvt. C. R. Jones Pvt. H. Jones Pvt. R. L. Jones Pvt. T. K. Jones

Pvt. A. R. Kammerude Pvt. J. L. Kroetch Pvt. R. M. Lewis Pvt. M. T. Lightfoot Pvt. J. K. Liserio Pvt. D. J. Lode Pfc. D. Lopez Pfc. E. A. Lopez Pvt. D. Lu *Pfc. Z. D. Lum Pfc. T. D. MacDuff Pfc. M. F. MacLeod Pvt. A. J. Mancino Pvt. P. J. Martinez Pvt. D. A. Marts

Pvt. R. C. McAuley Pvt. C. W. McCall Pvt. C. McCartev *Lance Cpl. D. S. McCrainey Pvt. T. Merle Pfc. A. J. Monroy Pfc. K. L. Monroy Pfc. K. J. Murray Pvt. I. R. Orta Jr.

Pvt. L. C. Orta Pfc. D. D. Patterson *Pfc. O. Pereira-Avilez Pvt. A. C. Pence-Williams Pfc. J. M. Scott Pvt. N. A. Sturrock Pfc. B. C. Thompson Pfc. D. J. Van Kampen Pvt. W. S. Wallace Pvt. P. J. White Pfc. A. P. Wilhelm

PLATOON 2163 Senior Drill Instructors Sqt. G. Erosa **Drill Instructors** Sgt. J. D. Ramirez Sgt. W. E. Satterfield

Pvt. D. J. Allen *Pfc. C. R. Ashford Pvt. B. B. Atwell Pvt. N. K. Baley Pvt. D. Barnes Pvt. A. M. Bernd Pfc M M Brenna Pfc. C. W. Brown Pvt. B. H. Chance Pvt. J. D. Clark Pvt. N. P. Cowell Pfc. E. M. Craven Pvt. T. J. Criswell Pfc. A. A. Duckett Pvt. M. C. Emigh Pvt. T. R. England

Pvt. R. A. Fleetwood Pvt. B. L. Frasher Pfc. T. A. Frizzle

Pvt. M. Gajewski Pvt. J. P. Gilliam Pvt. J. R. Gladson Pvt. J. C. Goding Pvt. T. W. Gorski Pvt. M. H. Hunt Pvt. E. W. Ishnook Pvt. K. D. Johnson Pvt. J. C. Jones Pvt. L. D. Kahler Pvt. E. K. Keith

Pvt. D. L. Kelley Pvt. R. Khafizov Pfc. Z. J. Kohler Pvt. M. J. Lechleiter Pvt. T. M. Lewis Pvt. L. L. Liesinger Pvt. D. A. Lozano Pvt. J. M. Lucas Pfc. J. W. Lvnch Pvt. D. C. Mann Pfc. Z. L. Martin Pvt. D. A. McCarthur II *Pfc. C. S. McCafferty Pvt. R. R. McCune Pvt. C. Miller *Pfc. B. L. Mills

*Pfc. B. G. Monahan Pfc B M Myers Pvt. J. R. Newkirk Pvt. N. L. Newton Pvt. S. E. Nieman Pvt. B. O. Oleson Pvt. C. I. Palmerton

Pvt. J. D. Poppe Pfc. D. C. Riegel Pfc. A. R. Roeder III Pvt. C. Z. Rogers Pvt. C. A. Sadowski Pvt. J. N. Salinas Pvt. J. C. Schamer Pvt. A. M. Schiaffino

Pvt. J. W. Schmitt Pvt. R. A. Schuessler Pvt. A. J. Sether Pvt. J. K. Simps Pvt. T. L. Stickle Pvt. B. L. Swaidner Pvt. B. L. Tackett Pvt. C. C. Turner Pvt. J. M. Underwood

Pvt. A. R. Valdes Pvt. D. Velasquez

Pvt. J. L. Watson *Pfc. N. D. Wesley Pvt. C. A. Wiley Jr. Pvt. M. T. Willis **SERIES 2165**

PLATOON 2165 Senior Drill Instructo Gunnery Sgt. C. M. Glocke Gunnery Sgt. M. N. Caldas Gunnery Sqt. S. Santoro Staff Sqt. P. J. Hannaway

Pfc. J. D. Alvarez Pvt. E. E. Anaya Jr. Pfc. J. A. Angala Pfc. J. W. Argueta Pfc. R. L. Ballesteros Jr. Pfc. R. R. Blair Pvt. F. Blancas Pfc. A. Carbajal Pvt. L. A. Davis Pvt. M. D. de la Cruz Pfc. A. T. Denton Pfc. J. M. Dryer Pvt. L. M. Engmar Pvt C D Fischenich Pvt. J. A. Freese Pfc T Garcia III Pfc. E. M. Guerrero-Boanol Pfc. P. A. Guillen *Pfc. G. Guzman Pvt. W. T. Halev Pvt. J. B. Harris Pvt. B. R. Hession Pvt. J. Hong Pfc. C. L. Jordan Pvt. M. A. Lara Pfc. T. A. Lewis Pvt. J. E. Licona *Pfc. K. D. Lopez Pvt. E. S. Mann *Pfc. J. J. Martinez Pvt. S. A. May

Pvt. N. A. Plan Pvt. J. R. Proffit

Capt. J. B. Rehtmeyer Chief Drill Instructor Gunnery Sgt. R. Armendariz

Pfc. B. G. Alldis

Pvt. D. Alvarado

Pfc. I. T. McGee Pvt. R. E. Mersino

Some Company H recruits apply face paint while others grab a bite to eat as they await instruction from field instructors at the Night Infiltration Course, Weapons and Field Training Battalion, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton Calif., During the Crucible Nov. 18. Cpl. Shawn Dickens/Chevron

Pvt. L. O. Meyers Pvt. J. C. Moon Pvt. R. S. Moore Pvt. S. Orozco Pvt. J. T. Ortega Pfc D M Palafox Pvt. K. J. Person Pfc. J. M. Peterson Pvt. V. E. Pineda Pfc. D. J. Raber *Pfc. R. M. Reyes Pvt. M. S. Rico Pvt. C. L. Ring-Saylor Pfc. C. P. Rivera Pfc. J. C. Rivera Pvt. R. Roman Pfc. A. V. Romero II Pvt. I. Romero Pvt. M. Rubalcava Pvt. A. Salamanca Jr. Pvt. G. A. Salgado Pfc. R. Sandoval Pfc. A. J. Schoole Pvt. R. D. Scott Pvt. M. A Spadafora Pfc. T. G. Steincartford Pvt. R. L. Swift Pvt. J. J. Tucci Pvt. L. A. Vasquez Pvt. M. R. Vasquez

Pvt. T. D. Wagner Pvt. S. R. Ward Pvt. T. K. Washburn-Moore Pvt. R. J. Weir III Pvt. B. L. Wigley Pvt. J. S. Wilson Pfc. N. J. Winium Pfc. J. F. Wright Pvt. J. L. Wyman Pfc R I Yuhas Pfc. J. M. Zagar Pvt. S. C. Zimmerman

Pfc. J. A. Villalta

PLATOON 2166 enior Drill Instructor Staff Sgt. R. Acosta Staff Sgt. F. J. Gonzalez Sqt. M. J. Sanchez Pfc. G. T. Abelia Jr. Pvt. S. R. Allen Pvt. J. Aparicio

Pfc. W. R. Ascencio Pfc. M. Aunu Pfc. R. B. Baldonado *Pfc, B. J. Barnard Pvt. B. R. Bergara Pvt. K. J. Blackburn Pvt. I. T. Borck Pvt. R. G. Bradshaw Pfc. B. E. Brown Pvt. R. E. Byers Pvt. R. Cabrera IV Pvt. J. R. Cain Pvt. T. M. Campana Pvt. J. L. Ceia Jr. Pvt. K. L. Clem Pvt. P. W. Collins Pvt. D. A. Dresner Pvt. P. Eisner Pvt. W. B. Ennis Pvt. D. J. Erickson Pvt. P. D. Escalante Pvt. L. J. Escobedo Pvt. Y. C. Fischer Pfc. C. J. Friesen

Pvt. C. J. Frost Pvt. R. E. George

Pvt. S. D. Gippner *Pfc. F. R. Godinez-Lara Pvt. S. J. Goodmar Pvt. E. L. Guerrero Pvt. C. D. Guetersloh Pfc B P Herzberg Jr Pvt. L. C. Hicks Pvt. A. J. Hillman Pfc. S. R. Holloway Pfc. C. R. Hubbard *Pfc. J. M. Ibbetson Pvt. S. M. Jahanguiri Pfc. G. A. Jamanila Pvt. A. C. Johnson Pvt. J. T. Johnson Pvt. S. P. Johnson Pvt. J. J. Kanally Pvt. D. J. Keelina Pfc. A. B. Krikorian Pvt. M. Y. Kuo Pvt. C. D. Larsen Pvt. L. S. Lonon Pvt. M. P. Lopez *Pfc. C. S. Louie Pvt. E. M. Mata III Pvt. P. A. Mayer Pvt. M. D. McBride Pvt. R. J. McEntire Pfc. C. O. McLean Pvt. M. Meiia-Osorio Pvt. M. Mendoza Pfc. A. M. Meyer Pvt. R. J. Montoya *Pfc. S. R. Moore Pvt. S. A. Morales Pvt. J. P. Moreno *Pfc. R. M. Newton Pvt. J. D. Noe Jr. Pfc. E. Z. Nordhagen-Sorenson Pvt. C. S. Noydnidros Pvt. C. Ocampo Pvt. J. M. Ortega Pfc. D. N. Peterson Pvt. R. A. Ramos Pfc. R. P. Sanglaphermis Pfc. J. I. Sannicolas

Pvt. J. M. Zarate **PLATOON 2167** Senior Drill Instructor Staff Sgt. F. Rafael Drill Instructors Staff Sgt. G. Rosas Sat. E. Gonzalez Sgt. C. J. Requejo Sgt. N. Vega Pvt. S. L. Aguinaga Pvt. S. C. Alcantar Pfc. B. R. Ballinger Pvt. J. R. Beny IV

Pvt. D. M. Smith

Pvt A Solano

Pfc. A. S. Sran

Pfc. J. S. Strand

Pvt. M. A. Vickerv

Pvt. M. W. Waugh

Pvt. N. E. Brinkley Pvt. C. D. Brown Pvt. D. J. Buening Pvt. A. C. Carosella IV *Pfc. D. R. Cheeley Pfc. D. R. Cheeley Pvt. R. J. Cooper Pfc. N. K. Davis Pvt. S. M. Davis Pfc. D. D. Decker II Pfc. J. A. Delle-Donne Pvt. J. M. Denney Pvt. J. W. Edmonds

Pvt. A. F. Dixon

Pvt. Z. T. Gaines Pvt. J. L. Garner Pvt. K. G. Greene Pfc. E. A. Greenzow Pvt F Guzman Pvt. M. R. Harris Pfc. J. C. Kirk Pvt. N. A. Knabb *Pfc. S. J. Lampa Pvt. A. D. Ledonne Pvt. T. J. Lenhart III Pvt. G. S. Liphard Pvt. D. A. Mason Pvt. J. N. Maupin Pvt. J. C. McElyea *Pfc. G. I. McFadder Pvt. J. McIlwaine Pvt. R. McIlwaine *Pfc. L. L. McNeal Jr. Pvt. S. A. Morales Pvt. P. D. Paplow Pvt. N. A. Parker Pvt. T. A. Pavne-Stinson Pvt. A. D. Price Pvt. C. J. Priest Pfc. J. L. Rainev Pvt. B. A. Rodgers Pvt. J. G. Rodriguez Pvt. J. Roldan Pfc. W. Z. Sabo Pvt. J. M. Sarabia Pvt. G. B. Sholes Pvt. E. Sierras-Calixto Pvt. S. L. Simms Pfc. B. C. Smithly Pvt. C. B. Smith Pvt. D. S. Stendal Pfc. S. M. Taylor Pfc. C. J. Tejeda Pfc. N. M. Thom Pvt. M. D. Thompson Pvt. J. M. Utz Pvt. F. M. Valdez Pvt. L. Valdez Pvt. R. J. Villlanueva Pvt. M. D. Vincent Pvt. D. R. Waldock Pvt. J. J. Walters Pvt. R. D. Ward Pfc. K. A. Weaver Pvt. B. M. Webb Pfc. M. R. Whitman Pvt. A. T. Williams Pvt. B. L. Williams Pvt. J. P. Williams *Pfc. L. A. Wipper Pfc. G. A. Witcher

*Pfc. J. A. Flores

PLATOON 2168 Senior Drill Instructor Staff Sgt. E. Partida Drill Instructors
Staff Sgt. J. Chanhdysoth Sgt. J. K. McNatt Sgt. C. E. Valle Pvt. G. F. Burnham Pfc. M. J. Dahir Pvt. J. Gomez Pvt. M. J. Kuder Pvt. J. Limon Pfc. T. J. Loader

Pvt. M. S. Lorah Pvt. P. I. Manchengo

*Pfc. M. Madayag III

Pvt. A. T. Magana Jr. Pfc. U. F. Maka

Pvt. M. L. Martin Pfc. A. K. Mason Pvt. O. J. McConnell Pvt. B. L. McGahan *Pfc. T. McGuire Pvt. C. Miller *Pfc. B. K. Minaya Pvt. M. Morales Pvt. J. M. Morrison Pvt. E. S. Murillo Pfc. A. Murillo Jr. *Pfc. G. Muro Pfc. M. J. Nelson Pvt. P. T. Nguyen Pvt. E. M. Norwood Pfc. A. E. Nunez Pfc. A. A. Obaidi Pfc. J. A. Oberlander Pvt. G. T. Ochoa Pvt. V. Pacheco Pvt. D. D. Palacios Pvt. M. E. Patino Pfc. T. A. Plyushko Pvt. A. M. Poellnitz Pvt. G. J. Polimeni Pfc. E. J. Quintero Pvt. D. J. Reeder Pvt. G. R. Rice Pvt. J. D. Ridd Pfc. K. R. Riley Pvt. C. R. Robertson Pvt. C. A. Rodriguez Pvt. J. L. Rodriguez Pvt. C. P. Rowan Pvt. T. A. Ruth Pvt. D. Saiz Jr. Pvt. G. F. Salazar Pvt. E. Sanchez Pfc. D. E. Scherr Pvt. E. J. Schlecht Pfc. K. W. Schlick Pfc. A. R. Sindermann Pvt. K. M. Singh Pfc. K. T. Smidt Pvt. R. D. Smith Jr. Pvt. R. G. Stamper Pvt. J. C. Starbird *Pfc. K. R. Stephenson Pvt. J. R. Tholen Pvt. S. Thomas Pfc. S. J. Tipton Pvt. S. C. Trujillo Pvt. J. M. Velazquez Pvt. M. A. Velez *Pfc. C. Villagomez Jr. Pvt. J. A. Washington Pvt. D. D. Weier Pvt. R. W. Wellons Pvt. S. A. Westray Pfc. B. J. Whitmore Pvt. T. R. Whitted Pvt. P. L. Wilds Pvt. C. E. Wilmoth Pvt. R. W. Wilson Pvt. S. L. Wilson Pvt. M. M. Wirtanen Pvt. N. W. Wisocki Pvt. S. A. Wright Pvt. N. Xiong Pvt. S. L. Zamarron Pvt. D. J. Znava *Denotes meritorious promotion

Hundreds trot across depot in annual Turkey Trot race

BY LANCE CPL. REBECCA A. LAMONT Chevron staff

More than 1,500 civilians and service members participated in the annual Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego Turkey Trot Nov. 21 which was hosted by the Marine Corps Community Services.

More than 20 of the volunteers were from the Veterans Village of San Diego.

"Without all of our volunteers we couldn't host the Turkey Trot," said Kelly Sitar, deputy director of Semper Fit.

Volunteers helped distribute food and treats as well as T-shirts that every registered participant received.

In addition to the 5K fun run, participants indulged in drinks, sandwiches and pumpkin pie after the race. Participants were also given the opportunity to complete in a pie eating contest. Small prizes were given at various booths, but the main raffle featured a Playstation portable kit, video camcorder, golf clubs and San Diego Chargers tickets.

A few volunteers were designated to

support the holiday food drive by collecting items needed for gift baskets that will be delivered to Marines and their families this year.

Another vendor booth was dedicated to the Great American Smoke-out, which was established to encourage tobacco users to quit smoking by giving away tobacco-free T-shirts and bracelets.

"It was great because a lot of people were running at a good pace and it was a short enough distance to be really competitive," said Joel Coito, the second place runner.

Christopher Willis, 25, was the first to finish the race with a time of 16 minutes, 40 seconds. Coito finished second with 16:48. The first woman to finish was Becki McClintock with 18:15.

The age groups for the race were split every five years from one to 60. The youngest participant was one-year-old and the oldest was 87-years-old.

"It was really hard but fun," said Alex Nachreiner, 11, who was one of the first of the youngest group to finish the race. "I feel really good now and I'm ready to eat."



More than 1,500 runners participated in this year's Turkey Trot fun run Nov. 21. The leading runner finished the five kilometer run in 16-minutes, 40-seconds, while the first woman to cross the finish line made the distance in 18:15. The picture above is from the 2007 Turkey Trot. Official Marine Corps photo

Police, from pg. 1

subjects such as local, state and federal laws as well as the Uniform Code of Military Justice, weapons familiarization and qualification, physical fitness and professional conduct, according to Ted Borkowski, the lead instructor of the Miramar academy.

"Our goal at the academy is to turn out officers who are professional, and work hand in hand with the Marine Corps," said Borkowski, a former Marine officer and former San Diego Police Department officer. "They must pass physical fitness tests and qualify with weapons like Marines and are expected to maintain the professionalism of Marines as well."

The depot is still currently hiring and looking for possible candidates for officers. Each installation is in charge of the hiring and interviewing process, according to Master Sgt. Rick Jones, the provost sergeant for the depot.

"We hire and interview prospects before they are sent to the academy," Jones said. "Once they come back from the academy they go through our field training program where they learn more about operations that are specific to our base such as recruit handling and dealing with the increase in traffic and personnel on graduation day."

The Marine Corps Civilian Police Academy at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, Calif., is where the depot trains and receives its civilian officers. About 40 officers have graduated since its first class in May 2008.

Miramar's academy is scheduled to be the West Coast Regional Academy for all prospective police officers at western military installations for the program around March 2009.

Once assigned to bases, the officers have the same jobs as military police. Officers can have duties such as patrol officer, military working dog handler, desk sergeant, physical security inspector and investigator to name a few.

The officers working on the depot are considered general service employees. Former

Marines and civilians who meet requirements have the opportunity to be hired as police officers.

"It's good meeting people every day and the training has been great," said Jose Ruiz, a depot civilian police officer and former Marine. "We go more in depth with our training than some of the military policemen."



Jose Ruiz, a police officer with the depot's Provost Marshal's Office checks IDs of those entering the facility Nov. 20 at Gate 4. Ruiz is currently one of seven civilian police officers on the depot as part of the new Marine Corps Civilian Police program. Cpl. Kevin M. Knallay/Chevron



The annual Marine Corps Toys for Tots toy collection program continues until Dec. 21. Collected toys are dis-

tributed to children in the local community for Christmas. Collection boxes are distributed around the depot,

and exhibit the official toy train logo. Give a new toy and help make a Merry Christmas for others.